

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A process for characterizing intellectual property (IP) defining a circuit for integration at an anchor point in a context pre-defined IC, comprising steps of:

a) selecting a constraint on modification of each of a plurality of bounding constraint characteristics of the IP;

b) defining bounding constraints for each of the characteristics of the IP based on characteristics of the IC;

c) physical synthesizing the IP using the bounding constraints;

d) testing the characteristics of the synthesized IP; and

e) iteratively repeating steps b), c) and d) using the test results to modify the bounding constraints for characteristics within the respective constraints of modification until the characteristics of the IP are optimized.

2. The process of claim 1, wherein step (e) further comprises:

repeating steps (b), (c) and (d) through a range of acceptable characteristics, and

selecting a set of characteristics from the range.

3. The process of claim 2, further comprising:

identifying a plurality of anchor points in the platform, and

repeating steps (b)-(e) for each anchor point.

4. The process of claim 3, wherein the constraint on modification of each bounding constraint characteristic is selected from the group comprising fixed, variable and priority relationship.

5. The process of claim 2, wherein the constraint on modification of each bounding constraint characteristic is selected from the group comprising fixed, variable and priority relationship.

6. The process of claim 2, further comprising:

f) storing the characteristics of the IP.

7. The process of claim 1, further comprising:

f) storing the characteristics of the IP.

8. The process of claim 1, wherein the constraint on modification of each bounding constraint characteristic is selected from the group comprising fixed, variable and priority relationship.

9. The process of claim 1, further comprising:
identifying a plurality of anchor points in the platform, and

repeating steps (b)-(e) for each anchor point.

10. The process of claim 9, wherein the constraint on modification of each bounding constraint characteristic is selected from the group comprising fixed, variable and priority relationship.

11. A computer useable medium having a computer readable program embodied therein for addressing data to characterize intellectual property (IP) defining a circuit for integration at an anchor point in a context pre-defined IC platform, the computer readable program comprising:

first computer readable program code for causing the computer to identify a constraint on modification of each of a plurality of bounding constraints of the IP;

second computer readable program code for causing the computer to define bounding constraints for the characteristics of the IP based on characteristics of the IC;

third computer readable program code for causing the computer to synthesize the IP using the bounding constraints;

fourth computer readable program code for causing the computer to test the characteristics of the synthesized IP; and

fifth computer readable program code for causing the computer to iteratively repeat execution of the second, third and fourth computer readable program

codes using results of execution of the fourth computer readable program code from the prior iteration to modify the bounding constraints within the respective constraints of modification until the characteristics of the IP are optimized.

12. The computer useable medium of claim 11, wherein the fifth computer readable program code further comprises:

computer readable program code for causing the computer to repeat execution of the second, third and fourth computer readable program codes through a range of acceptable characteristics, and

computer readable program code for causing the computer to select a set of characteristics from the range.

13. The computer useable medium of claim 12, wherein the computer readable program further comprises:

computer readable program code for causing the computer to identify a plurality of anchor points in the platform, and

computer readable program code for causing the computer to repeat execution of the second, third, fourth and fifth computer readable program codes for each anchor point.

14. The computer useable medium of claim 13, wherein the constraint on modification of each bounding constraint characteristic is selected from the group comprising fixed, variable and priority relationship.

15. The computer useable medium of claim 12, wherein the constraint on modification of each bounding constraint characteristic is selected from the group comprising fixed, variable and priority relationship.

16. The computer useable medium of claim 12, wherein the computer readable program further comprises:

computer readable program code for causing the computer to store the characteristics of the IP.

17. The computer useable medium of claim 11, wherein the computer readable program further comprises:

computer readable program code for causing the computer to store the characteristics of the IP.

18. The computer useable medium of claim 11, wherein the constraint on modification of each bounding constraint characteristic is selected from the group comprising fixed, variable and priority relationship.

19. The computer useable medium of claim 11, wherein the computer readable program further comprises:

computer readable program code for causing the computer to identify a plurality of anchor points in the platform, and

computer readable program code for causing the computer to repeat execution of the second, third, fourth and fifth computer readable program codes for each anchor point.

20. The computer useable medium of claim 19, wherein the constraint on modification of each bounding constraint characteristic is selected from the group comprising fixed, variable and priority relationship.